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UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Haiti, Mexico and Nicaragua.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second year or two-year extensions are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the one-year country programme extensions for Haiti, Mexico and Nicaragua.

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One-year extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

Country	Original programme period	Year proposed for extension	Reason and Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other Issues
Haiti	2002-2006	2007	In line with harmonization, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP are seeking one-year extensions of their current country programmes.	Elections were rescheduled for February and March 2006 in order to replace the current provisional Government with an elected Government. The extension is necessary in order to give time to the new Government to develop its national development plan. On that basis, the United Nations country team will undertake the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process and develop the country programme with the new Government.	The current country programme provides an adequate framework for all UNFPA-supported projects in Haiti.
Mexico	2002-2006	2007	UNDP and UNICEF are also proposing one-year extensions of their country programmes in order to harmonize their cycles.	Mexico will organize elections in July 2006. The new UNDAF for 2008-2012 can thus be prepared in consultation with the new Government.	The current country programme provides an adequate framework for all UNFPA-supported projects, as it is closely linked to the national population policy and can easily be extended by one year.

One-year extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

Country	Original programme period	Year proposed for extension	Reason and Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other Issues
Nicaragua	2002-2006	2007	All United Nations Development Group Executive Committee agencies are extending their country programmes for one year in order to harmonize their programmes and align them with the government cycle.	Nicaragua is presently in its presidential campaign. Elections will be held in November 2006.	The decision to extend the United Nations country programme cycles responds to a request by the Government to harmonize United Nations programme cycles with government cycles. This will permit a more effective and efficient provision of technical and financial assistance to national priorities, in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.